AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.   (Currently Amended) An output system having a data processing device and an output device for outputting data in a specific format, which is sent from the data processing device, driver software for controlling the output device being included in the data processing device, and comprising:

a first controller for <u>receiving a print request and</u> determining whether ~~data on output request passes the driver software, in sending data~~ <u>the print request instructs data to be sent</u> to the output device <u>via a printer driver or to be directly sent to the output device so as to bypass the printer driver</u>; and

a second controller <u>responsive to said first controller for calling an illegal printing preventing function incorporated into the printer driver if said print request instructs data to be sent to the output device via the printer driver, and</u> for prohibiting <u>said</u> data from being sent to the output device ~~for output request on which data bypasses the driver software~~ <u>if said print request instructs data to be sent to the output device so as to bypass the printer driver</u>.

2.   (Currently Amended) An output system having a data processing device and an output device for outputting data in a specific format, which is sent from the data processing device, driver software for controlling the output device being included in the data processing device, and comprising:

~~an encryptor for encrypting~~ <u>a first data modifier for modifying</u> data ~~passing~~ <u>processed by</u> the driver software, provided on the data processing device, ~~but not for encrypting data sent to the output device that bypasses said driver software~~; and

~~a decryptor for decrypting data encrypted by the encryptor and output data that bypasses said driver software,~~ <u>a second data modifier</u> provided on the output device <u>that performs complementary modification on all data received at the output device regardless of whether the received data has been modified by said first</u>

<u>modifier, such that data processed by the driver software is returned to its</u>
<u>unmodified form and other data remains modified</u>.

3.   (Previously Presented) An output system having a data processing device and an output device for outputting data in a specific format, which is sent from the data processing device, driver software for controlling the output device being included in the data processing device, and comprising:

a prohibiting controller for prohibiting data bypassing said driver software to be output to the output device, but allowing data passing the driver software to be output to the output device, by setting a value which is different from an ordinary value for outputting data to the output device, in response to a data output request to the output device from the data processing device.

4.   (Original) An output system as described in claim 3, wherein said setting is a value stored to a specific register.

5.   (Currently Amended) An output method used in an output system having a data processing device and an output device for outputting data in a specific format, which is sent from the data processing device, comprising:

determining whether <u>a print request instructs</u> data ~~on output request~~ ~~passes driver software for controlling the output device, in sending data~~ <u>to be sent</u> to the output device from the data processing device, ~~said~~ <u>via printer</u> driver software incorporated in the data processing device <u>or to be directly sent to the output device so as to bypass the printer driver software</u>; and

prohibiting data from being sent to output device ~~for the request on which data bypasses~~ <u>if said print request instructs data to be sent to the output so as to bypass</u> the <u>printer</u> driver software.

6.   (Currently Amended) An output method used in an output system having a data processing device and an output device for outputting data in a specific format, which is sent from the data processing device, comprising:

~~encrypting~~ <u>modifying</u> data ~~passing the~~ <u>processed by</u> driver software included in the data processing device, on the data processing device side~~, but not encrypting data that bypasses said driver software when sent to the output device~~; and

~~decrypting the encrypted data, on~~ <u>performing complementary modification of data received at</u> the output device side~~, wherein said decrypting is performed on said non-encrypted data, if present~~ <u>regardless of whether the data is received via the driver software, such that data processed by the driver software is returned to its unmodified form and other data remains modified</u>.

7.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium for storing a program run on an output system having a data processing device and an output device for outputting in a specific format data sent from the data processing device, said program comprising steps of:

determining whether <u>a print request instructs</u> data ~~on output request passes driver software for controlling the output device, in sending data~~ <u>to be sent</u> to the output device from the data processing device~~, said~~ <u>via printer</u> driver software incorporated in the data processing device <u>or to be directly sent to the output device so as to bypass the printer driver software</u>; and

prohibiting data from being sent to output device ~~for the request on which data bypasses~~ <u>if said print request instructs data to be sent to the output so as to bypass</u> the <u>printer</u> driver software.

8.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium for storing a program run on a data processing device for sending data to an output device for outputting in a specific format, comprising steps of:

~~encrypting~~ <u>modifying</u> output data from an application program run on the data processing device ~~that passes driver software stored in the data processing device for controlling the output device~~, and

~~outputting the encrypted data to~~ <u>performing a complementary modification on all data received at</u> the output device, ~~wherein said step of encrypting is not performed for data output to the output device that bypasses the~~

~~driver software~~ <u>regardless of the source of the data, such that modified data received from the application program is returned to its unmodified form, and all other received data remains modified</u>.

9.   (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium for storing a program run on a data processing device for sending data to an output device for outputting in a specific format, comprising steps of:

encrypting output data from an application program run on the data processing device, and

outputting the encrypted data to the output device, wherein the encrypting step sets a specific password for output data from the application program.

10.   (Canceled)